

Applying Your Skills

The Crucible, Act Three

PA 13.11.8 Analyze the relationships, uses and effectiveness of literary elements used by one or more authors in similar genres including characterization, setting, plot, theme, point of view, tone and style. 1.1.11.H.5 Demonstrate fluency and comprehension in reading; Demonstrate comprehension.

Respond and Think Critically

Reading Focus

Quick Check

1. As the act begins, why does Giles Corey interrupt Judge Hathorne?
2. How does Mary respond when Danforth asks her to explain her behavior?
3. What does Danforth do with the list of people supporting Rebecca and Martha?
4. What test does Danforth devise to determine why Abigail was put out of the Proctor house?
5. What is Abigail's "vision"?

Read with a Purpose

6. What does Hale mean when he asks if every defense is an attack upon the court? By the end of this act, would you say that Hale is a dynamic character, who has changed, or a static character, who has not changed? Use details from the play to support your response.

Reading Skills: Drawing Conclusions About Characters

7. Explain why Giles Corey feels that he cannot present his one piece of evidence requested by the judge.
8. At this point in the play, what conclusions have you drawn about Abigail? Support your response with evidence from your chart.

Literary Focus

Literary Analysis

9. **Analyze** What does Danforth's reaction to Giles's outburst at the beginning of the act suggest about his character?

10. **Interpret** Why does the court debate whether Proctor plows on Sunday? What is the significance of this debate?

11. **Literary Perspectives** Elizabeth Proctor is known to be intrinsically honest. Explain whether her lie to Danforth undermines her credibility.

Literary Skills: Motivation

12. **Make Judgments** When John reveals his true relationship to Abigail, what do you think he also reveals about his character and his motivation?

Literary Skills Review: Mood

13. **Analyze** The overall emotion transmitted by a work of literature is its **mood**. Dramatic works often include comic relief—the inclusion of a comic episode or element to relieve emotional tension by shifting temporarily to a lighter mood. Do you think Giles Corey's earthy dialogue provides comic relief in *The Crucible*? Explain.

Writing Focus

Think as a Reader/Writer

Use It in Your Writing Write a brief dialogue between two characters in which one attempts to make the other, who is innocent, appear guilty of wrongdoing. Include stage directions to show the innocent character's reactions and to reveal the secret intent of the accuser.

What Do
You
Think
Now

Elizabeth Proctor lies to Danforth. Does her lie make her seem more like other characters in the play? Why or why not?

For **CHOICES** see page 1167. ➤